

ONE WAS TO STEAL, THE OTHER TO

Story of a \$10,000 Embezzlement in the Northwest—Influence of Temptation in Shaping a Career—The Effect of a Joke,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1. A party of gentlemen were breakfasting in a restaurant not more than stone's throw from the White House a few mornings ago, when the conversation turned upon the Seely-flaker defalcation and the probable motives for the crime. Much sympathy was expressed for Seely by one of the party, who intimated that the Seely case was much more than a mere business matter. "After all," he said, "after all these years, and the belief was expressed that he had taken the first step toward the narrow path at the direction of the older and wiser criminal. Temptation, it was agreed, had much to do with the molding and shaping of the career of every man, and the theory brought the following true story from England, which was as good as Princeton's famous story of the orange and the black. It was a most interesting story, and known to the lifetime appellation of "House."

"While I was in business out West two years

In a case of thieving that was unique startled the entire Northwest. The city I was in is larger most of more than ordinary consequence and a great deal of grain, timber, and ore find their outlet through it, and it has banking houses that would do honor to a more pretentious town than that collection of primitive buildings on the verge of the roughest country on the continent. In one of the largest financial institutions the sum of \$30,000 was missing one spring day, and everybody from the President down was greatly exercised, and strenuous ex-

There were not more than half a dozen men in the concern who had access to the vault where the money was stored, and all were of the most scrupulous character and had been in the employ of the bank for a long time. Detectives were sent to the bank to make a search, but no effort was made to get some trace of the thief or thieves, but, at the end of more than a month of searching inquiry the Vintners were compelled to give up and announce their inability to place even the slightest suspicion upon any member of the staff. The money, which was in packages of bills of large denominations, had vanished as mysteriously as though it had dissolved into the air. In the course of a couple of days the money was again in the hands of the stockholders made the deficit good, and it was only now and then that the good people of the town referred to the loss casually.

"About a year after the money disappeared, me or the youngest of the clerks in the bank came to the President, displayed a letter from a friend in the East asking him to go into business with him, and offering to furnish the necessary capital. The clerk said the opportunity for success in the venture outlined by his friend was so promising that he had come to the conclusion that he could not afford to let it pass, and he

superior officer, for the clerk was one of the model young men of the town, and a member of the church. He was a very popular person, and, so, with the young men of all classes, he was on the evening of his departure it was arranged to give him a banquet in the dining hall of the building here. The clerk came to the hall, arrayed in his best suit, and he was very glad to see the early fall, and the weather is sharp in the northwest as soon as October sets in. The banquet was a very pleasant affair, and it should be prolonged by speechmaking and illumination until midnight, when the boys in a body came to the door and gave him a farewell cheer as the train pulled out. It happened that one of the boys was going stepped on to the platform, which was on the floor near the clerk's table. Taking the clerk by the hand, he said, "I am glad to see you go, and I hope you will be worth \$39,000 on one side of the bag."

"Well, \$39,000 here, please," with the \$39,000 on the other side of the bag, the clerk said, and with a smile led him back to his seat at the table, and then addressing the company in a

"I can assure you this is no joking matter. You all know how seriously the loss of that \$30,000 meant to me. I was in a position in which I had no money to be connected, and none of us from the President down did not feel the time that we would be more or less guilty in the eyes of the public until the chief was brought. By all means let us have more jokes of this kind."

"The checking of '\$30,000' on the bag had been greeted with shouts of laughter, but it was not until the chief had been brought in and, taking his handkerchief, exposed the inscription. There were frowns for the luckless investigator of the joke, and the dinner was considered a failure. The chief was the recipient of good will and many hearty handshakes from the clerk amid his farewells, and when the man flashed away his face was strained against the wind from the open door. Not a word was spoken, not a single face reflected or was

the same train, going down the line somewhere for a prisoner. This man knew the clerk well, and, approaching him from behind, clasped him about the shoulders, saying:

"So you thought you'd get away with the money; come now, you are my prisoner. Here's the \$30,000."

"This coming on top of the other strain was enough for the clerk, and leaning back in his seat he covered his face with his hands and sobbed, 'It's here in this bag.'"

"The police officer had been joking and he was

amazed at the confession, and, taking the suit into custody, returned to town by the next morning. He was not averse to the idea of a clerk told how he stole the money, and then everybody saw how easily it was done. He had a great deal to say on the subject one afternoon shortly after his return. He said that he had been a large hater there. He said he was seized with an irresistible desire to take the money, and that he had been very much surprised to find the packages in the hollow of his left arm, and, as his light increased negligently over it, and he looked at it, he saw that it was a very convenient place as though out for a stroll after dinner. He took the package to his room, stored it in an old bag, and waiting until nightfall, carried it to the bank and hid it in the cracks of the safe. A hundred times during the investigation he said he was tempted to tell the President.

nothing whispered to him that would make it any the less a good start in business anywhere, and if successful he would in time pay every penny of the amount with interest. Under the most rigid examinations on the part of the bank authorities and by the detours he retained his nerve, and was at the end of the investigation as far from suspicion as any other member of the staff. At the expiration of a year and a half he wrote a friend instructions to write such a letter as he had shown the President of the bank. He secured the bank, and

could have escaped but for the lack of the precious moment of nerve, of which he had shown at he possessed a great deal. He is now serving a sentence that he is awaiting to be hanged the person whenever they think of taking anything that does not belong to them."

ALMOST THE LAST OF THE MIAMIS.
The Death of a Kettle of a Once Powerful Indian Family.
From the Chicago Record.
WABASH, Ind., Nov. 25.—A Mrs. Leslie Richards, Miami Indian, daughter of a Miami chief, died here yesterday.

the most conspicuous members of the tribe, led Thursday night in a miserable hovel on the Indian reservation in the southern part of this state, near Sonora. She was the last survivor of the Miami tribe, which was exterminated in the Miami tribe back in the 17th century. Wagon-conah, who was nearly eighty when he died, was of a religious turn, and, as he was illiterate, having received large grants of land from the government, he had been at the expense, conducting services himself for the benefit of the Miami and the "poor whites" who hover about the Indian land. Some time before his death the old man contracted debts

[illegible]

hence, the influence of this great power, the United States, is felt in the life of every citizen, whether he be a citizen of the United States or a citizen of some other country. The United States is a great power, and its influence is felt in the life of every citizen. The United States is a great power, and its influence is felt in the life of every citizen.